

## Learning Center Time with Investigation Stations

### Title: Super Spring Mural with Audio Guided Tour

#### Materials

Coffee filters  
Scissors, markers, glue, staplers  
Shallow bowls of diluted food coloring  
Construction paper  
Roll of art or butcher paper  
Sponges and paint  
Tape recorder and blank cassette tape



#### Directions

##### 1. Mural time!

After reading books and singing songs about spring, list findings about signs of spring on a chart for children to read. Tape a large sheet of art or butcher paper to the wall. Invite children to use their knowledge of spring to complete a wall mural. Children may choose to sponge paint grass, sky, or clouds; or create trees, rainbows, people, birds, rabbits, flowers from art materials and affix them to the mural.

##### 2. Add audio.

Number each item added to the mural and have the child who added that item tape-record himself/herself "interview style" telling what he/she added, why it was added, and how it completes a true picture of spring. When the mural and cassette are finished, invite parents to take a guided audio-tour of spring via individual cassette players and headsets; or, add the cassette players and tapes to the center for children to take a tour and admire their classmates' work.

##### 3. Learn special mural techniques.

#### Spring Fling Filter Flowers

Fold coffee filters into several pie-wedge pieces and cut a zig-zag or curvy design along the edge of the filters. Dip all edges of the filters into various bowls of diluted food coloring. Unfold the filters and allow the flowers to dry. Glue the flowers into the mural. Add construction paper stems and leaves.



#### Butterfly Beauties

Use pipe cleaners or construction paper to make frames in the shape of a butterfly. Have children glue laminating film scraps over the openings in the frames. When dry, have children color the film with permanent colored markers. Attach butterflies to the mural or hang them on fishing line at various lengths to create a 3-D effect to the mural.

